

## PEOPLE'S MESSENGER.

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### STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE PEOPLE'S PARTY OF MISSISSIPPI.

Dr R. K. Prentiss, Chair., Ackerman, Miss.  
T. C. Jackson, Sec'y., Lumberville, Miss.  
A. W. Kestler, Amory, Miss.  
A. M. Sneed, Bonneville,  
J. H. Simpson, Watson,  
Frank Ray, Tippah county,  
Hon. T. J. King, Wilson,  
Hon. John A. Bailey, Tipton,  
J. H. Dwyer, Emory,  
J. W. Freen, Poplarville,  
Frank Barnes, Pike county,  
S. M. Hollingsworth, Dry Grove,  
Hon. A. M. Newman, Hamburg,  
J. B. Bell, Bentonia,  
J. T. Connell, Mayhew,  
State-at-large—  
Hon. J. H. Jamison, Cliftonville,  
Hon. N. C. Hathorn, Columbia,  
Col. T. M. McGuire, Sunnyside.

Chairmen and Secretaries of the county executive committees are requested to forthwith report their names and addresses to Dr. R. K. PRENTISS, Chair'n State Ex. Com., Ackerman, Miss., so that he may be enabled to communicate with them whenever necessary.

### Fourth District Executive Committee.

The following named gentlemen constitute the People's party Executive Committee of the 4th Congressional District of Mississippi:

P. M. Bankston of Carroll;  
J. C. McDowell of Kemper;  
O. C. Watson of Winston;  
J. M. Cunningham of Montgomery;  
D. D. Malone of Clay;  
B. L. Griffin of Calhoun;  
J. M. Randall of Webster;  
W. A. Madison of Noxubee;  
J. V. Abernathy of Chickasaw;  
P. M. Miller of Grenada;  
J. R. Coleman of Yelobusha;  
W. B. Moses of Choctawh;  
C. W. Button of Tishomingo.

The committee organized by the election of W. A. Madison of Noxubee chairman and D. D. Malone of Clay secretary.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN JUDICIAL DIST.

W. L. Crosswhite, Houston, Chickasaw;  
A. W. Kestler, Amory, Monroe;  
J. T. Connell, Mayhew, Lowndes;  
W. E. West, Stuttgart, Oktibbeha;  
C. S. Biscoe, Guntown, Lee;  
F. S. Avery, Tocoma, Pontotoc;  
T. B. Rankin, of Issaquena;  
F. P. Young, Wheeler, Prentiss;  
G. W. Mason, of Alcorn;  
M. D. Adams, Juka, Tishomingo.

### Platform of the People's Party of Miss., Adopted July 31, '95.

The People's party of Mississippi, in convention assembled, invoking the blessings of Almighty God, and reiterating the demands of the Omaha platform, solicits the support of all patriotic citizens who, dissatisfied with the present reign of ruin, can subscribe to the following declaration of paramount principles—principles upon whose early enforcement in the judgment of this party depend the liberties of the people, the independence of the republic and the perpetuity of free institutions. We declare:

First—for the free and unlimited coinage of both silver and gold at the ratio of 16 to 1, without the grace of foreign powers and principalities.

Second—we declare for the abolition of national banks and the issue and coinage of all money by the general government.

Third—we declare for the speedy increase of the currency to at least fifty dollar per capita through the unlimited coinage of silver and the limited issue of full legal tender treasury notes "bottomed on taxes."

Fourth—we declare for a supply of money commensurate at all times with the demands of exchange, taxation and debt.

Fifth—we declare for the payment of the public debt according to contract in either silver or gold, or both, as the interests of the masses and not the interests of the creditor class alone may require.

Sixth—we declare for the repeal of all laws construed to authorize the issuance of interest bearing bonds in time of peace.

Seventh—we declare for the supplying of all deficits in the national treasury by the issue of full legal tender notes and all deficits in the State treasury by the issue of treasury warrants, receivable for taxes instead of by the issue and sale of long time interest-bearing bonds.

Eighth—we declare for the decrease in all taxes, both State and national, and for a corresponding decrease in all public expenditures, especially fees, salaries and perquisites of public officials, commensurate with the low range of prices and depression of the times.

Ninth—we declare for the enactment of laws by the general government to prohibit dealing in futures or gambling in agricultural products and the necessities of life, and for the enactment of more effective laws to prohibit trusts and monopolies.

Tenth—we declare for amendments to the federal constitution authorizing the levy and collection of an income tax, and limiting the tenure of federal judges to a term of years.

Eleventh—we declare for an American government for the American people.

### STATE INDEX.

Believing the ballot box to be the palladium of liberty, we favor the enactment of laws to guarantee fairness and honesty in elections.

We assign the present and former State Democratic administrations for squandering 2,700,000 acres of public school lands, and we favor, first, the abolition of the office of land commissioner, and, second, the enactment of laws to prohibit the acquisition of and in this State by non-resident aliens and

requiring the disposition of lands now held by such aliens within a given time.

We favor a reduction of at least 20 per cent in the salaries and fees of all public officials.

We assign the present and former Democratic administrations for their weakness, extravagance and profligacy and for the expenditure of \$156,612.19 by a Democratic official, and we promise, if successful, an administration characterized by the strictest honesty, economy and frugality and devoted to the policy of internal improvement and industrial development.

### PEOPLES' PARTY PLATFORM.

**Finance.**—a. We demand a National Currency, safe, sound and feasible, issued by the general Government only, a full Legal Tender for all debts, public and private; and that without the use of banking corporations, a just, equitable and efficient means of distribution direct to the people shall be established, at a rate not to exceed two per cent., as set forth in the Sub-Treasury plan of the Farmers' Alliance, or some better system. Also by payment in discharge of its obligations for public improvements.

b. We demand free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1.

c. We demand that the amount of circulating medium be speedily increased to not less than \$50 per capita.

d. We demand a graduated income tax.

e. We believe that the money of the country should be kept as much as possible in the hands of the people, and hence we demand that all National and State revenues shall be limited to the necessary expenses of the Government, economically and honestly administered.

f. We demand that Postal Savings Banks be established by the Government for the safe deposit of the savings of the people and to facilitate exchange.

### LAND.

The land, including all the natural sources of wealth, is the heritage of all the people and should not be monopolized for speculative purposes, and alien ownership of land should be prohibited. All lands now held by Rail Roads and other Corporations in excess of their actual needs, and all land now owned by aliens, should be reclaimed by the Government and held for actual settlers only.

### TRANSPORTATION.

a. Transportation being a means of exchange and a public necessity, the Government should own and operate the Rail Roads in the interest of the people.

b. The telegraph and telephone, like the Post-Office system, being a necessity for the transmission of news, should be owned and operated by the Government in the interest of the people.

In the above platform, the clear straight forward declaration of the populists, on the silver and other questions, must command itself to the favorable consideration of all candid men. In order that a fair comparison may be made between the parties the democratic and republican financial planks are also given. The last democratic national convention promulgated the following, at Chicago in 1892:

"We denounce the republican legislation known as the Sherman act of 1890 as a cowardly makeshift, fraught with possibilities of danger in the future which should make all of its supporters as well as the author anxious for a speedy repeal. We hold to the use of both gold and silver as the standard money of the country and to the coinage of both gold and silver without discriminating against either metal or a charge for minting, but a dollar of unit coinage of both metals must be of equal intrinsic and exchangeable value, or adjusted through international agreement or by such safeguards in legislation as shall insure the maintenance of a parity between the two metals, and the equal value of every dollar at all times in the market and the payment of debts, and we demand that paper money be kept at par with and redeemable in such coin. We insist upon this point as especially necessary for the protection of farmers and laboring classes, the first and most defenseless victims of unstable money and fluctuating currency."

The republicans the same year at Minneapolis, said,

"The American people, from tradition and interest, favor bimetallism, and the republican party demand the use of both gold and silver as standard money, with such restrictions and under such provisions, to be determined by legislation, as will secure the maintenance of the parity of values of the two metals, so that the purchasing and debt paying power of a dollar, whether silver, gold or paper, shall be at all times equal. The interests of the producers of the country, its farmers and workmen, demand that every dollar of paper or coin issued by the government shall be as good as any other. We commend the wise and patriotic steps already taken by our government to secure an international conference to adopt such measures as will insure a parity of value between gold and silver for use as money throughout the world."

Neither party intended the above plank as a declaration in favor of silver, for when Grover Cleveland called the special session of congress last summer, 66 per cent of the democrats and 90 per cent of the republicans voted against silver. In 1884 the democratic platform contained this plank, on which Grover was elected the first time.

"We believe in honest money, the gold and silver coinage of the constitution, and a circulating medium convertible into such money without loss."

After the election both the president and the party repudiated the plank that helped carry them into power.

Four years afterwards in 1888, the republicans elected Mr. Harrison on a plank which declared that:

"The republican party is in favor of the use of both gold and silver as money, and condemns the policy of the democratic administration in its efforts to demonetize silver."

Like the democrats, they too repudiated the financial declarations that helped carry them into power.

The financial plank in the People's party platform declares for a government issue and control of the volume of money. This is in line with the financial views of some of the ablest statesmen the nation ever produced.

Andrew Jackson taught

"If Congress has the right under the constitution to issue paper money, it was given them to be used by themselves, or to be delegated to individuals or corporations."

Thomas Jefferson said:

"The issuing power should be taken from the banks and restored to the government and people, to whom it properly belongs."

A republican supreme court appellate judge by Abraham Lincoln, declared that:

"Another ground of the power to issue treasury notes or bills is the necessity of providing a proper currency for the country, and especially of providing for the failure or disappearance of the ordinary currency in times of financial pressure and threatened collapse of commercial credit. Currency is a national necessity. The operations of the government, as well as private transactions are wholly dependent upon it. It follows as a matter of necessity, as a consequence of these various provisions, that it is especially the duty of the general government to provide a national currency."

Thus it will be seen that democrats and republicans have both occupied the ground now taken by the populists, and we may add both have repudiated their pledges and sold the country to the goldsmiths.

### THE LOCAL DEMANDS.

a. We demand the abolition of national banks.

b. We demand that the government shall establish small treasuries or depositories in the several States, which shall issue money direct to the people at a low rate of tax, not to exceed 2 per cent per annum on non-agricultural farm products, and also upon real estate, with proper limitations upon the quantity of land and amount of money.

c. We demand that the amount of the circulating medium be speedily increased to not less than \$50 per capita.

d. We demand that Congress pass such laws as will effectually prevent the dealing in future of all agricultural and mechanical produce, providing a stringent custom law, conviction and imposing such penalties as shall secure the most perfect compliance with the law.

e. We condemn the silver bill recently passed by Congress and demand its repeal.

f. We demand the passage of laws prohibiting alien ownership of land, and that Congress take prompt action to devise some plan to obtain all lands now owned by aliens and foreign syndicates; and that all lands now held by railroads be reclaimed by the government, and held for actual settlers only.

g. Believing in the doctrine of equal rights to all and special privileges to none, we demand—

a. That our national legislation shall be so framed in the future as not to build up one industry at the expense of another.

b. We further demand removal of the existing heavy tariff tax from the necessities of life, that the poor of our land may live.

c. We further demand a just and equitable system of graduated tax on incomes.

d. We believe that the money of the country should be kept as much as possible in the hands of the people, and hence we demand that all national and State revenues shall be limited to the necessary expenses of the government economically and honestly administered.

e. We demand the most rigid, honest, and just State and national governmental control and supervision of the means of public communication and transportation, and if this control and supervision does not remove the abuse now existing, we demand the government ownership of such means of communication and transportation.

f. We demand that congress of the United States submit an amendment to the Constitution providing for the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people of each State.

### INDUSTRIAL LEGION.

The names of the following gentlemen have been forwarded to Gen. Van Derveer, Commander-in-chief of the Industrial Legion of the United States, who will be duly commissioned as recruiting officers and the work of organizing the Legion in Mississippi will be pushed forward as rapidly as possible:

1st District officers—Hon. W. H. Gardner, Bonnerville; M. Z. Cook, Prairie.

2nd District officers—Hon. W. P. Wyatt, Coldwater; Hon. J. H. Simpson, Watson, and District officers—Dr. R. T. Love, Saint's Rest; Judge G. W. Wise, Shelby.

3rd District officers—Hon. J. T. Gwin, DeKalb; Hon. T. J. King, Winona,

4th District officers—Hon. W. P. Ratliff, Kosciusko; Hon. W. H. Stinson, Meridian,

5th District officers—Hon. W. H. Griffin, Liberty; Capt. T. A. Mitchell, Nicholson.

6th District officers—Hon. S. W. Robinson, Gosha Springs; Hon. A. M. Newman, Hamburg.

COUNTY RECRUITING OFFICERS.

Col. J. T. Connell, for Okolona county.

Dr. A. Brown, Lowndes \*

M. Z. Cook, Monroe \*

Hon. W. P. Wyatt, Itawamba \*

C. S. Biscoe, Lee \*

Fred B. Smith for Prentiss and Tishomingo.

W. H. Gardner, Warren county.

J. H. Simpson, Marshall county.

C. M. Haynie, DeSoto county.

S. H. Hall, Tate county.

Col. G. W. Dyer, Pontotoc county.

Hon. R. B. Bunting, Tallahatchie county.

Ed. Reape, Lafayette county.

F. M. Miller, Grenada county.

Dr. N. M. Woods, Yalobusha county.

Capt. R. E. Russel, Calhoun county.

Hon. J. W. Winter, Chickasaw county.

Dr. J. T. Harrington, Clay county.

Hon. J. E. Gore, Webster county.

T. W. Jackson, Winston county.

Hon. W. Davis, Kemper county.

Hon. J. H. Jamison, Noxubee county.

S. C. West, Jr., Carroll county.

Hon. T. J. King, for Montgomery county.

C. W. Bottom, Pontotoc county.

Hon. R. B. Perkins, Choctaw county.

J. P. Garner, Atala county.

Hon. F. R. Holmes, Coahoma county.

Hon. A. Carr, Scott county.

Hon. John A. Bailey, Lefland county.

A. Monroe, Neshoba county.  
Hon. J. H. Harris, Clark and Warren counties.  
Hon. Joe Purvis, Smith and Jones.  
T. H. Moore, Amite and Wilkinson.  
W. H. McRae, Lawrence county.  
T. H. Jackson, Pike county.  
Hon. Joe, St. Franklin county.  
L. H. Price, for Jefferson county.  
S. M. Hedges, for Adams county.  
J. D. Moore, Copiah county.  
H. T. Johnson, Adams county.  
C. C. Williams, Simpson county.  
Dr. W. H. Johnson, Washington county.

Suitable persons will be recommended in the near future, by the District officers, to organize the counties omitted in the above.

### JEFFERSON